

TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

OUTGOING AMEMBASSY PARIS

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Control: 410

Date: September 7, 1961
8:00 P.M.

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General Horstad had one and half hour talk with Chancellor Adenauer this morning September 7 in Bonn. Atmosphere was very cordial and Chancellor appeared alert and confident. He gave evidence on several occasions, however, of continued sensitivity concerning Vice President Johnson's visit to Berlin and possible boost this may have given to Brandt in forthcoming elections. Following were highlights of conversation:

(1) Adenauer said he wished to talk with Horstad about FRG Armed Forces, indicating that he had some political and military difficulties in connection with speed-up of military preparations. In response, Horstad gave background of his presentation to NAC on measures he proposed be taken by NATO countries to meet present needs. He stressed need to bring FRG divisions to 90 per cent effectiveness. To accomplish this, there would be three possibilities:

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retain personnel now in service; call up reservists; increase draft. In order to have impact in next three months, only first of these possibilities would be meaningful. Horstad in summing up said that crisis exists for West and contribution is urgently needed from Federal Republic. Only practical way for FRG to accomplish goal set by NATO would be to retain personnel now in service who scheduled for release September 30. Horstad also made point that he could not persuade other NATO countries to meet their requirements if FRG did not meet its requirements.

Schauer agreed with Horstad concerning necessity for holding personnel in Armed Services beyond September 30. He said he would talk to political leaders in afternoon to inform them of his decision and instructions would be issued providing for retention of personnel for three months beyond September 30 date. Other contingents scheduled for release subsequently would also be held for additional three month period if this appeared necessary.

Horstad suggested that any FRG press statements or instructions to troops could indicate that action to retain personnel in service is required by NATO in order to fulfill FRG commitments to NATO on expedited basis.

(2) In conversation with Strauss prior to meeting with Chancellor,

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said "some people" in West Germany think FRG should intervene in event East German uprising. He asked Norstad's views on this subject. Norstad said he could imagine nothing more dangerous than West German intervention in East Germany, which he felt would very probably lead to all-out war. In his view, it was essential that FRG show greatest restraint in event of uprising. Adenauer indicated his agreement and in response to Norstad's suggestion that he ~~might~~ inform Allies of his thinking on this point, said that he might write letter to President on subject.

(5) Adenauer referred to Stikker's earlier complaints about his staff and inquired if there had been improvement. Norstad said he thought Stikker still not completely satisfied but situation was improving. Norstad added that Stikker has frequently complained about lack of information but now RPT now seems pleased with arrangements made for him to receive ~~appropriate~~ information from US channel as appropriate. Adenauer remarked that he has issued instructions that Stikker should be given fullest possible information from German side.

LYON

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